



Staff Report

Report Title: Ripley Lions Club Memorial Tree Grove Proposal

Prepared By: Mike Fair, Director of Community Services

Department: Community Services

Date: Apr. 19, 2021

Report Number: CS-2021-04-25

File Number:

C11-CS-E

Attachments:

Recommendation:

That the Township of Huron-Kinloss Council hereby approves Report Number CS2021-04-25 prepared by Mike Fair, Director of Community Services and authorizes the Ripley Lions Memorial Tree program be located immediately west of the Lewis Trail forty feet wide and 225 meters in length until such time that more space is required.

Background:

The Ripley Lions Club is proposing a Memorial Tree Grove in Ripley. The Lions plan to start with planting 18 trees in memory of past Lion members. The Lions are also considering opening the memorial tree Grove to any member of the public. The Lions Club were initially working with the Bruce Botanical Food Garden (BBFG) and proposed to plant trees immediately to the east of the BBFG. The concern with this location is that the memorial grove would be in the middle of this property and could possibly interrupt future plans for the property if the BBFG ever ceased to operate or if the land was used for another purpose in the future decades.

Discussion:

After careful review, staff provided two alternate proposals and reviewed with the Lions Club site selection committee. The first proposal is land adjacent to the Lewis Trail to approximately 40 feet west of the trail. The second proposal is a perimeter grove around the Park Street soccer fields. Both proposals are attached on a map for clarification.

The Lions Memorial site selection committee prefers to plant along the forty feet west of the Lewis trail. The proposal includes two rows of trees, mulched, staked with water bags, Large rock with bronze plaque signage at the north end of Lewis Trail.

Staff offered to fill water bags weekly for the first summer. In the future the trees will provide shade to the users of the existing Lewis trail. Staff recommends the new site location. The distance to the leased cropland is 225 metres to the south. Staff recommend that if additional planting area is required in the future then the cropland lease be reduced by 40 feet to accommodate the Memorial Grove at that time to continue south along the Lewis trail.

Financial Impacts:

One hour of student time per week for watering trees.

Strategic Alignment / Link:

We are a prosperous community that continues to grow in a sustainable manner

We are a vibrant community that values our uniqueness and creativity.

By creating places where people want to be

We are a spirited community that takes pride in calling Huron-Kinloss home and welcoming others.

By engaging in our community

We are an environmentally conscious community that are good stewards of our natural environment.

By protecting our natural assets

By using our resources wisely

By being aware and taking responsibility

Respectfully Submitted By:

Mike Fair, Director of Community Services

Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer